

too closely to Mark Crowley tell us that his 18-year-old son, just 10 months out of high school, was killed on patrol, or that his gunner, who weathered six hits to his machine gun, was killed when the seventh bullet went through his head.

It would rather we not listen to Cindy Sheehan holding her son's childhood Teddy bear, say that she sleeps only when she takes a pill, and even then, just 3 or 4 hours. "It gets worse every day," she said Tuesday night. Her son, Casey, died in April.

All of our children have given their futures, and our futures, Kesterson satisfied, finally raising her hand to speak on camera toward the end of the show: "There will be no grandchildren. These young men had so much more to give. They could have been great. They are not just wooden pieces pushed around a war table like a game."

Somewhere, there is a mother hearing on the news that there have been casualties in Mosul or Fallujah or Baghdad. She prays, "Please, don't let it be my child." Maybe this time it will not be, but it is always somebody's child.

The number of dead Americans in the Iraqi war passed the 1,000 mark this Tuesday, before the show's taping, and kept going. More knocks on the door, more gentle suggestions to sit down.

Mr. Speaker, there is a smarter, safer way for America to conduct itself in Iraq. The course the Bush administration currently has us on is not it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KLINE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SHUSTER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take the time of the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Tennessee?

There was no objection.

#### WAR ON TERROR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend, like so many of my colleagues, I spent time at a memorial ceremony, several in my district, to remember the victims of September 11, to honor the soldiers who have bought our security with their lives, and to pray for those who battle at this very moment in Iraq and Afghanistan to

preserve our freedom. Today, I traveled to Fort Campbell in my district to spend the day with our 101st Airborne soldiers and to join Secretary Rumsfeld as he held a town hall meeting with the community there at Fort Campbell.

Mr. Speaker, it occurred to me while surrounded by those thousands of Americans, all united, all prepared to do what it takes to win this war on terrorism, it occurred to me that the terrorists sorely have misjudged our Nation and that they certainly have misjudged our President and his leadership team.

On September 12, America made a conscious decision to change the world, not to withdraw from it. And President Bush deserves credit for not wavering, for realizing the time had come for America's military might to be used. The terrorists never expected we would have the fortitude to invade Afghanistan, to remove the Taliban, to hunt down and destroy two-thirds of the al Qaeda leadership.

The attacks were meant to change us, but only those who have a fundamental misunderstanding of what makes America unique could think that that is possible.

Today, the al Qaedas, the Saddams, Qadhafi in Libya, Iran's President, Mohammed Khatami, and North Korean Dictator Kim Jong Il, they understand us better and they know that America is not the one who will change.

Some say that Iraq was not worth it. These are the same people who believed we could win the Cold War with nothing more than diplomacy, and these are the same people who think U.N. sanctions are the answer to the world's problems. But what I have found and what I saw today was that most Americans want a substantive, serious debate on what direction we should take in the war on terrorism, not disagreement for disagreement's sake, which is what I believe Candidate KERRY is giving them. I think they respect the job that President Bush has done and is continuing to do, and they understand that what we are doing in Iraq is something that needs to be done. They understand that much better than most politicians.

People across America, our constituents, know that Iraq is tough. They understand it is a struggle, but they also realize that we have no choice but to change the world, to change the Middle East if we hope to have a chance to end terrorism. Containment and detente simply do not work when we are talking about planes being hijacked and when we are faced with people strapping bombs to their bodies and annihilating crowds of civilians.

So I support President Bush. He has helped America stand tall in the face of terror. He told the world that America would not be changed by their threats of terrorism; and today, we are on the offensive in this war on terrorism for the first time. We must not change course now.

Americans have always recognized leadership when they saw it; and today,

they see it. President Bush is a leader who is not afraid to make the tough decisions, and that is what our Nation needs.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take the time of the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO).

Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

#### THE PRESIDENT'S PLAYBOOK: DENIAL, DISINFORMATION, AND DODGING RESPONSIBILITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, Republican leadership in the Senate confirmed last week they have no intention of acting on prescription drug importation legislation. Senate leader FRIST said there just is not time to take it up.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds all Members not to make improper references to the Senate.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, it has been 400 days since a bipartisan majority in the House passed legislation giving Americans access to safe, affordable medicine from Canada and other allied nations, 400 days. Since then, the Senate has passed legislation commending a sculptor, a painter, its own staff, the nation of Bulgaria, and Smokey the Bear. The Senate has recognized the importance of motorsports. The Senate, as has the House, has spent many days renaming post offices and Federal buildings from sea to shining sea.

There was time for all of those things, but for an issue as important to the American people as relief from the exploding price of prescription drugs, the other body simply could not find the time.

This importation issue is just one example of the three Ds of the Bush administration's health policy playbook: denial, disinformation, and dodging responsibility.

Here is one example: the Bush administration suppressed the new true cost of the Medicare law. The bill was originally tagged at \$400 billion. The President told us that. The President said he would not sign it if it cost more than that. The government's own Medicare actuary and the President surely